

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01

OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 OIC-02 IO-10 /116 W
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R 021545Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 796

AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T JIDDA 2391

PARIS FOR OECD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, SA, US

SUBJECT: YAMANI ON PREPARATION FOR CONSUMER/PRODUCER CONFERENCE

REF: A. STATE 72746 NOTAL B. JIDDA 2050

1. THE AMBASSADOR SAW YAMANI YESTERDAY PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF REF-TEL A. MANY OF THE POINTS WERE, HOWEVER, DISCUSSED WITH THE MINISTER. MINISTER YAMANI IS LEAVING FROM RIYADH FOR BEIRUT AND EUROPE TODAY (2 APRIL), AND AS WE WILL NOT HAVE A CHANCE TO SEE HIM AGAIN, THE REFTEL WAS SUMMARIZED AND GIVEN TO YAMANI'S OFFICE. WE WERE ASSURED HE WOULD BE GIVEN THE PAPER BEFORE HE LEAVES.

2. THE FOLLOWING POINTS WERE MADE BY YAMANI IN THE APRIL 1 CONVERSATION:

A. PRINCE SAUDI WILL NOT RPT NOT ATTEND THE PARIS MEETING. YAMANI SAID HE HAD NOT YET DECIDED WHO WOULD

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GO BUT IT WOULD PROBABLY BE ABD AL-HADI TAHIR, GOVERNOR

OF PETROMIN (THE SAUDI NATIONAL OIL COMPANY).

B. SAUDI ARABIA WOULD LIKE TO COOPERATE WITH THE UNITED STATES BUT IS NOT SURE HOW CLOSE OR OVERT THIS COOPERATION SHOULD BE.

C. AS REPORTED IN REF B, SAUDI ARABIA WANTS TO KEEP THE FULL CONFERENCE FAIRLY SMALL; IT FAVORS MEASURES TO HELP THE MSAS; IT WILL OPPOSE ANY DRAMATIC MOVES ON THE PART OF THE OPEC RADICALS. ABOVE ALL SAUDI ARABIA WISHES TO AVOID CONFRONTATION BETWEEN THE PRODUCERS AND THE CONSUMERS.

D. SAUDI ARABIA FAVORS GENEVA AS THE SITE FOR THE FULL CONFERENCE.

3. THE OTHER ITEMS LISTED IN PARA 6 OF REF A WERE NOT DISCUSSED AT THIS MEETING; THEY HAVE BEEN IN EARLIER CONVERSATIONS AND WE DO NOT EXPECT HOSTILE SAUDI POSITIONS ON ANY OF THESE POINTS.

4. THE SAUDIS LOOK AT THE PARIS MEETING AS PURELY MECHANICAL. IT WILL SET THE DATE AND PLACE FOR THE MAIN MEETING, DRAW UP ITS AGENDA, AND DECIDE WHO IS TO ATTEND. THE SAUDIS WOULD NOT EXPECT ANY OF THE SUBSTANTIVE ITEMS IN REFTEL A TO BE DISCUSSED. THEY WOULD, IN FACT, BE OPPOSED TO THEIR DELEGATE'S (TAHIR'S OR ANYONE ELSE'S) GETTING INVOLVED IN SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS OR ANY IMPORTANT POLITICAL OR POLICY MATTER WHICH SHOULD BE LEFT TO YAMANI HIMSELF AT THE SUBSEQUENT MEETING.

5. THERE WILL BE AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH YAMANI (AND OTHERS) ABOUT ALL THE ITEMS IN REFTEL A BEFORE THE FULL CONFERENCE. IF THERE ARE ANY SPECIFIC POINTS WHICH SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED, PLEASE SEND THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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